

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: I request you that a Commission about family planning should be constituted under the Chairmanship of our Hon. Prime Minister and the Chief Minister to see how family planning works. At the same time, will there be a restriction on politicians to the effect that those having more than two children will not be given any portfolio of a Minister?

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Make it applicable with retrospective effect.

MR. SPEAKER: I will do it.

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: May I reply the question now? The hon. Member asked whether any restriction will be there. I would personally like to say that so far as the slogan '*Hum Do Hamare Do*' is concerned I would prefer to say *Hum Do Hamara Ek*. But it is a matter which cannot be enforced with coercion. There has to be persuasion. We are living in a democracy and in a democratic set up, the will of the people has to be judged. This is number one.

Number two is, the hon. Member has asked whether anything is to be done about those who govern this country or the States or the panchayats. I have said at many places that we will have to build responsible leadership in this country. It is my personal idea that from panchayat to Parliament, we must have some system so that everybody adopts the small family norm. Only those people should govern the State or the panchayat or the zilla parishad who adopt the small family norm. I must tell the hon. Member that this will be done prospectively.

I must tell the hon. Member that none else than the Chief Minister of Bihar has told me that he will fully associate himself with this programme so that the future of this country is safe.

MR. SPEAKER: I feel that many hon. Members want to discuss this matter and there is a proposal before us that it should be

discussed in the House. We will try to find appropriate time for this, if not in this Session, in the next Session. We will discuss it.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: I want to make one small supplementary. I am coming from your State and I want to say that outdated contraceptive pills have been given to women. Yesterday in a morchha I came to know that the contraceptive pills that have been given to the women for distribution were outdated. Will you look into this?

SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR: I will look into this.

Opening of Blood Banks

*367. **SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extent help for opening a blood bank in each district for improving the quality of life of the common man;

(b) whether any proposal has been received from any international agencies like UNICEF, WHO, USAID or World Bank for setting up of blood banks or co at AIDS;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether such facility is proposed to be extent to the Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDHARTHA): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Government is implementing a plan for the development of Blood Banks in a phased manner. Strengthening of District Blood Banks is also a component included in

the plan. Out of 608 Government managed Blood Banks in the country, funds were provided to the State/U.T. Government for development of 62 Blood Banks upto 31/3/91. During 1991-92, funds are being released for the development of 84 Blood Banks. Under the project for Prevention and Control of AIDS which is now under the consideration of the World Bank, 90 more Blood Banks will be strengthened. The remaining 372 Blood Banks most of which are located at District Headquarters will be strengthened during 1992-93.

Facilities for testing for HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) infection have been established in 97 Blood Banks. With the assistance of US \$ 1.3 million from USAID, testing facilities are being provided in additional 52 Blood Banks.

According to the information furnished by the Government of Maharashtra, facilities for testing HIV infection have already been established at Civil Hospital Sindhudurg district.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: I would like to say that blood banks contribute a vital component of the Health Services and in this, the problem in backwards and hilly districts is severely acute and at many places people have to travel for 48 hours to get the facility of blood bank.

I would ask the hon. Minister what action the Government is taking so that this difficulty is reduced and the blood banks are established in the near vicinity of local population specially in hilly, backward and remote areas.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR): We had in the first phase started development of blood banks almost in all parts of the country. But it has to be done in a very phased manner. First we started in Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. Then we are in the second phase. We are aided by blood banks in major cities of the country where the population is above five lakhs.

Then the third thing is that this year, we will be having new 84 blood banks in the country. So far as this area is concerned, Sindhudurg, I will tell the hon. Member that there also we have a blood bank and I am told that it is doing some good work.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: My second supplementary relates to my constituency. According to the information furnished by the Government of Maharashtra, facilities for testing HIV infection have already been established at the Civil Hospital, Sindhudurg. Firstly, there is no Civil Hospital in my District because there is rural hospital of 100 beds capacity. But, in fact, it has been given only 50-beds. The Civil Hospital which has been proposed is in a new location, which is yet to come up. Secondly, there is no blood-bank in my district. I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister that there is no blood-bank. I would like to ask the Minister what action will be taken to ensure that a Civil Hospital is established there and secondly, the blood-bank which is not existing is provided at an early date.

SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR: As per the information given by the Maharashtra Government, at Oras in Sindhu Durg District there is a Civil Hospital. They have a blood-bank. It is functioning and doing testing of blood. But the number of blood-donors is very less. So, for these areas, the backward areas or for the small blood-banks or small hospitals, we are proposing to introduce a new system called the Rapid Diagnostic Tests. It will be cheap and it is not necessary that we must have a blood-bank for donors of 20-30 at a time. Only one man can come, at a time, he is checked and the blood is taken. Further, it is not necessary that he must be a very trained person. He has to be given training for one week or 10 days. In such areas like the Sindhu Durg these tests can be conducted.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Blood Banks have been set up in

all the districts of the country. If not, by what time it will be done? My second question is whether it is a fact that the blood procured from the Blood Banks is of the poor people and in the absence of proper examination of the blood, AIDS is spreading day by day? What appropriate steps will the Government take to control it? To what extent the blood donation is being encouraged? I would like to say that it is not being encouraged. Blood donation is a great donation. What steps will be taken to encourage people to donate blood?

[English]

SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR: I would like to tell the hon. Member that 372 more districts will be covered where we will have blood-banks in the third phase starting from 1992-93. This year, up to the end of March, as I said earlier, we are going to have 84 more blood-banks. So far as the professional donors are concerned, they do not come under this category. Like the Government hospital, voluntary organisations and the other organisations come under this category. We are not going to accept any blood from any donor unless it is proved to be safe and HIV positive test is being done at every place.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, the working of the blood-banks is very vital in saving the life of the patients struggling for life. They have to be carefully monitored and protected. There has been a shocking news item published just two weeks ago which states that there is a report of the World Health Organisation. That report says that by the end of 2000 A.D., 25 per cent of the people of this country will be affected by AIDS. One of the main reasons stated is that of indiscriminate supply of infected blood to the blood-banks. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether effective steps will be taken for giving un-infected blood through the Government-managed blood-banks and the private blood-banks. I would also like to know whether the disposable syringes will be used for the massive immunisation programme. This is the other reason. I would like to know the reaction of the hon. Minister.

SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR: I must tell the hon. Member that we are conscious about the AIDS explosion that is taking place. That is why, we have prepared a comprehensive project for checking it. We are getting about Rs. 260 crores from the World Bank for different programmes. So far as testing is concerned, any donor, who gives blood in in any bank, we are making arrangements that HIV positive test should necessarily be done so that there is no infection and the infection does not spread to any other areas.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that there are several medical institutions in the country functioning independently and blood banks have been set up to collect blood but they have not adequate equipments, means and proper scientific laboratories. Blood purchased from these blood banks cause many diseases. Have some norms been laid down which will have to be fulfilled by those institutes before they are made blood banks and if they don't fulfil those norms, the Government will not permit them to become blood bank and even if they are permitted, possibilities of spreading AIDS and other diseases will always be there. What is your opinion about it? I want assurance from the hon. Minister.

[English]

SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR: I have taken note of the suggestion made by the hon. Member.

New Drug for Treatment of Kala-Azar

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*368. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
SHRI GEORGE FERNAN-
DES:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation proposes to try in India a new drug for the